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NPIC/R-1129/63

March 1963

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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

SOVIET MILITARY PERSONNEL IN CUBA



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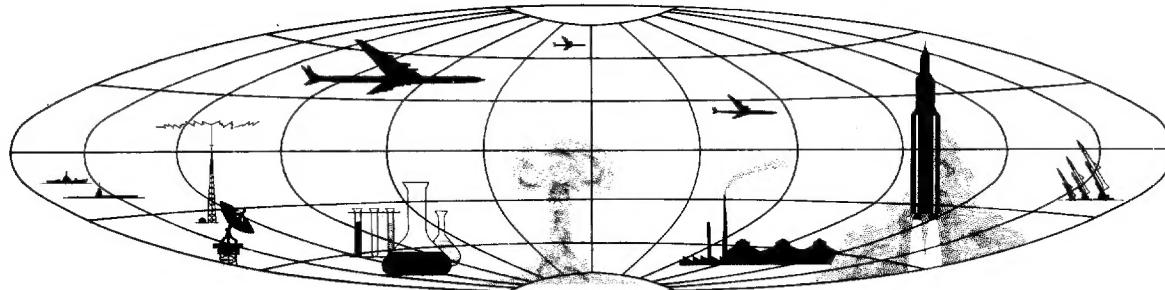
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W A R N I N G

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NPIC/R-1129/63
Supplement
March 1963

SOVIET MILITARY PERSONNEL IN CUBA

This supplementary report, prepared under NPIC Project JN-337/62, has been issued in order to clarify the intent of NPIC/R-1129/63, Soviet Military Personnel in Cuba. Although it is clearly evident that it is impossible to determine from aerial photography the actual number of troops housed in military camps, it is, however, possible to ascertain the capacity of all housing facilities in these camps. It is not possible at all times to determine whether all such facilities are actually being used for this purpose. In view of this, the first two paragraphs of the original report should read as follows:

Soviet troops in Cuba are stationed at various military installations, including military camps, airfields, SA-2 SAM sites, and cruise-missile sites. The purpose of this report is to determine from aerial photography the peak troop capacity of four armored military camps-- Artemisa, Holguin, Remedios, and Santiago de las Vegas-- and five other confirmed or suspect Soviet military camps--Camaguey, Mayari Arriba, Pinar del Rio, Playa Baracoa, and Torrens (Figure 1).

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[redacted] the above nine military camps had an estimated total capacity of 10,946 personnel. Of this estimated total, 4,924 could be billeted at the four armored camps, with the remaining 6,022* at the other five camps (Table 1). This estimate is based on a detailed analysis of both high- and low-level aerial photography.

*Most of the estimated capacity of 3,238 personnel at Torrens is believed to be for Soviet forces; however, the percentage for non-Soviet personnel cannot be determined, nor can the extent to which the housing facilities are being used for administration as opposed to billeting.

The substance of the above footnote is repeated on page 13, column 2, and the same modification should be made there.

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INTRODUCTION

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Soviet troops in Cuba are stationed at various military installations, including military camps, airfields, SA-2 SAM sites, and cruise-missile sites. The purpose of this report is to determine from aerial photography the peak Soviet troop strength at four armored military camps -- Artemisa, Holguin, Remedios, and Santiago de las Vegas -- and five other confirmed or suspect Soviet military camps -- Camaguey, Mayari Arriba, Pinar del Rio, Playa Baracoa, and Torrens (Figure 1).

[redacted] a total of 10,946 Soviet personnel were estimated to be present at the above nine military camps. Of this total, 4,924 were found at the four armored camps, with the remaining 6,022 personnel* at the other five camps (Table 1). This estimate is based on a detailed analysis of both high- and low-level aerial photography.

*The majority of the estimated 3,238 personnel billeted at Torrens are believed to be Soviet; however, the percentage of non-Soviet personnel cannot be determined.

Determination of troop strength was based primarily on the extent of billeting facilities observed. Soviet facilities can be identified by the distinctive size and shape of Soviet tents (Figure 2). In several camps, permanent barracks are being constructed to replace the tents, indicating a degree of permanency at these installations. Estimated troop capacity of the tents and barracks is based on an allocation of 40 square feet of floor space per man. Low-level photography aided greatly in determining tents and structures not used for billeting purposes.

A detailed study was also made of Soviet equipment present at the camps to determine if military units of specific size could be identified (Table 2). At each of the four armored camps, a medium tank battalion and an assault gun company were identified by the type and number of tanks and self-propelled guns observed. Support and other equipment and weapons identified at these camps do not correspond to the established TO & E of known units, how-

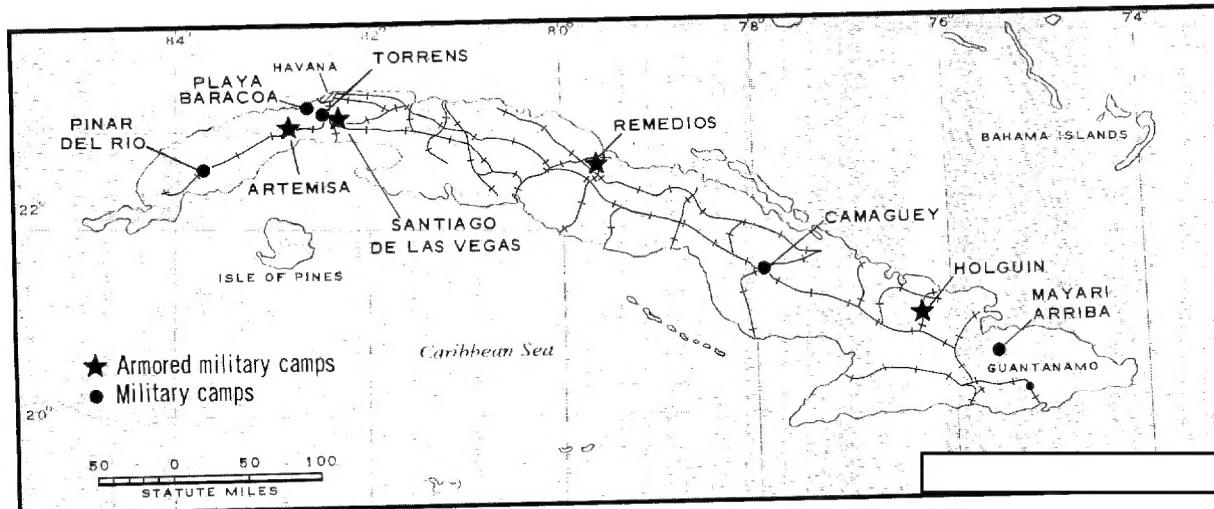


FIGURE 1. LOCATION OF SOVIET MILITARY CAMPS IN CUBA.

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Table 1. Determination of Soviet Troop Strength.

Military Camp	Squad Tents (USB-41)			General Purpose Tents		Pyramidal Tents		Barracks				Total
	No	Est Troop Cap (16 per tent)	No	Est Troop Cap (7 per tent)	No	Est Troop Cap (4 per tent)	No	Dimensions (ft)	Floor Space (sq ft)	Est Troop Cap (40 sq ft per man)		
Artemisa	49	784	21	147	47	188	12					1,119
Holguin	64	1,024	32	224	74	296	---					1,544
Remedios	49	784	17	119	49	196	12					1,099
Santiago de las Vegas	36	576	10	70	4	16	2					500 1,162
Subtotal	198	3,168	80	560	174	696	37					500 4,924
Camaguey	46	736	27	189	45	180	---					---
Mayari Arriba	---	---	---	---	---	---	7					971 971
Pinar del Rio	6	96	2	14	---	---	1					60 290
Playa Baracoa	21	336	10	70	3	12	---					---
Torrens	44	704	20	140	25	100	27					2,294 3,238
Subtotal	117	1,872	59	413	73	292	39					3,445 6,022
												Total 10,946

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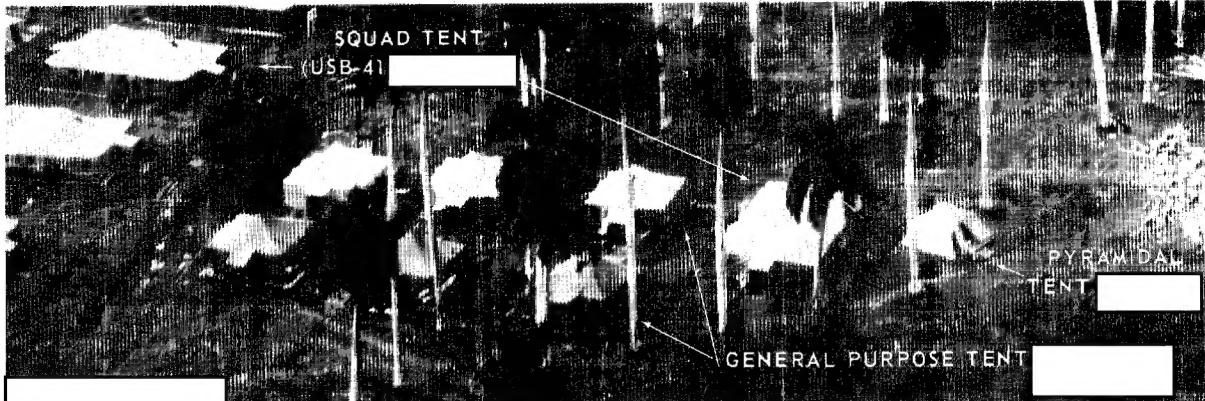


FIGURE 2. TYPES OF SOVIET TENTS IN CUBA

Table 2. Principal Weapons and Support Equipment.

PRINCIPAL ITEMS	ARMORED CAMPS								MILITARY CAMPS	
	Artemisa	Holguin	Remedios	Santiago de las Vegas	Camaguey	Mayarí Arriba	Pinar del Rio	Playa Baracoa	Tortosa	Total
WEAPONS										
T-54 tanks	30	31	32	32	1	1	1	1	1	125
PT-76 tanks	--	3	--	--	1	1	1	1	1	3
SU-100 self-propelled guns	9	9	9	9	--	--	1	1	1	36
SNAPPER antitank rocket launchers	8	--	9	--	--	--	1	1	1	17
FROG one-round rocket launchers	2	--	2	--	--	1	1	1	1	4
Antiaircraft artillery guns	15	15	14	15	1	2	1	1	1	76
Field artillery pieces	4	5	8	3	1	1	1	1	1	20
Mortars	3	7	6	--	1	1	1	1	1	16
SUPPORT EQUIPMENT										
FROG transporters	5	--	8	4	1	--	--	--	--	17
BRDM APC	2	--	7	5	--	--	--	--	--	14
Eight-Wheeled APC	51	--	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	55
Tracked Prime Movers	1	11	10	8	--	1	--	--	20	51
Cargo trucks	94	269	202	43	24	50	34	16	151	883
Utility trucks	10	18	26	11	18	2	3	3	21	112
POL trucks	--	16	7	--	7	1	--	30	10	71
Vans	1	4	26	--	32	23	4	--	160	250
Radars (mobile)	1	1	2	1	5	--	--	--	5	15
Miscellaneous or U/I	--	1	3	34	14	13	37	60	181	343

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ever. Therefore, troop strength could not be determined on this basis. No determination of the size of military units could be established at the other five camps.

Other methods of determining troop strength from aerial photography were also explored, including a correlation of the number of personnel with mess, training, and recreational facilities.

No consistent correlation factors could be determined.

A detailed list of all weapons and equipment observed [redacted] at each of the nine military camps follows. (Small quantities of equipment and some billeting facilities may not have been observed because of dense foliage, protective canvas coverings, or camouflage.)

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ARTEMISA MILITARY CAMP

Artemisa Military Camp is located 3.3 nautical miles (nm) northwest of Artemisa at 22-50-54N 82-48-30W (UTM 17QLR144278 on AMS Series E 723, Sheet 3684 IV). The camp consists of a billeting area, a motor park, a secured FROG (free-rocket-over-ground) park,

a 57 mm antiaircraft artillery battery, a 14.5 mm antiaircraft artillery battery, and a permanent barracks area under construction (Figure 3).

The following is a complete list of weapons and equipment identified at the camp:

30 T-54 tanks
9 SU-100 self-propelled guns
8 SNAPPER antitank (at) rocket launchers
2 FROG rocket launchers
6 57mm antiaircraft artillery guns
9 14.5mm antiaircraft artillery guns
4 57mm antitank guns
3 120mm mortars
51 eight-wheeled APCs
2 BRDM APCs
5 FROG missile transporters
8 motorcycles with sidocars

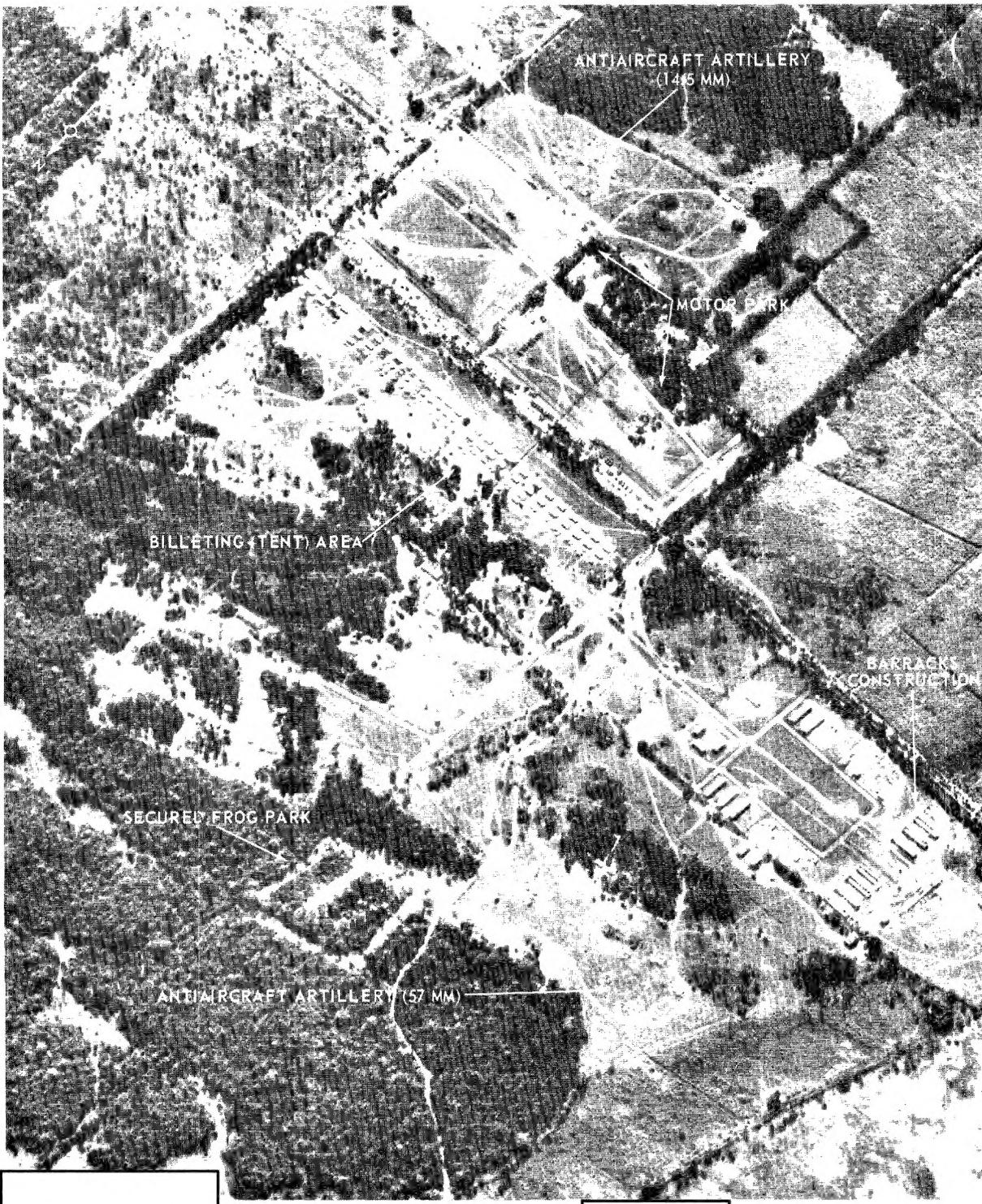
94 cargo trucks
10 utility trucks
1 van
5 truck-mounted treadway bridges
1 AT-T prime mover with dozer blade
1 T-54 tank chassis with mounted crane
1 motorized grader
1 rotary trench digger on AT-T
1 FIRE CAN radar
12 field kitchens
2 tank transporters
1 wheeled backhoe

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HOLGUIN MILITARY CAMP

Holguin Military Camp is located 1.6 nm east-northeast of Holguin at 20-53-48N 76-14-00W (UTM 18QUU718111 on AMS Series L 723, Sheet 4978 I). The camp consists of a billeting area, a motor park, a secured storage

area, a 57 mm antiaircraft artillery battery, a 30 mm antiaircraft artillery battery, and numerous scattered personnel trenches (Figure 4).

The following is a complete list of weapons and equipment identified at the camp:

31 T-54 tanks

3 PT-76 tanks

9 SU-100 self-propelled guns

1 BTR-50p APC

5 57mm antitank guns

7 120mm mortars

9 twin-30mm Czech antiaircraft artillery guns

6 57mm antiaircraft artillery guns

1 FIRE CAN radar

1 height rangefinder

5 generators

1 AT-T tracked prime mover

2 AT-S tracked prime movers

8 AT-L tracked prime movers

3 tank retrievers

269 cargo trucks

18 utility trucks

4 vans

16 POL trucks

14 cargo trailers

5 truck-mounted treadway bridges

1 AT-L with dozer blade

1 rotary trench digger on AT-T

12 field kitchens

13 motorcycles with sidecars

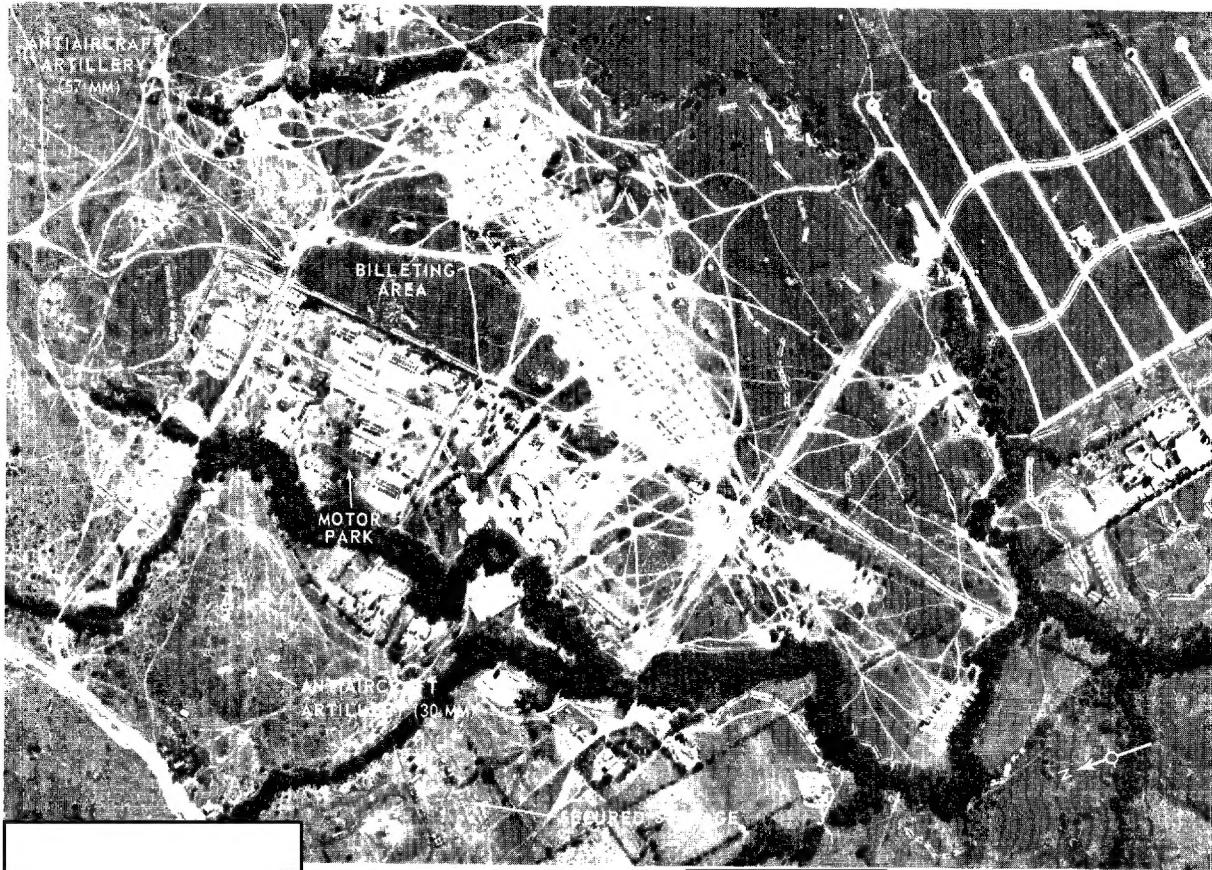


FIGURE 4. HOLGUIN MILITARY CAMP

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REMEDIOS MILITARY CAMP

Remedios Military Camp is located 3.7 nm southwest of Remedios at 22-27-12N 79-34-57W (UTM 17QPQ459835 on AMS Series 1: 723, Sheet 4283 II). The camp consists of a billeting area, a motor park with a double-fenced parking

area, a secured POL storage area, a secured storage area, a 57 mm antiaircraft battery, and 12 barracks under construction (Figure 5).

The following is a complete list of weapons and equipment identified at the camp:

- 32 T-54 tanks
- 9 SU-100 self-propelled guns
- 9 SNAPPER AT rocket launchers
- 2 FROG rocket launchers
- 8 field artillery pieces
- 6 120mm mortars
- 6 57mm antiaircraft artillery guns
- 8 light antiaircraft artillery guns
- 2 FIRE CAN radars
- 1 height rangefinder
- 1 generator
- 4 eight-wheeled APCs
- 7 BRDM APCs
- 8 FROG missile transporters
- 1 AT-S tracked prime mover

- 9 AT-1 tracked prime movers
- 6 tank retrievers
- 202 cargo trucks
- 26 utility trucks
- 7 POL trucks
- 26 vans
- 17 cargo trailers
- 5 truck-mounted treadway bridges
- 2 T-54 chassis with mounted crane
- 1 motorized grader
- 1 rotary trench digger on AT-T
- 3 unidentified vehicle
- 12 field kitchens
- 17 motorcycles with sidecars

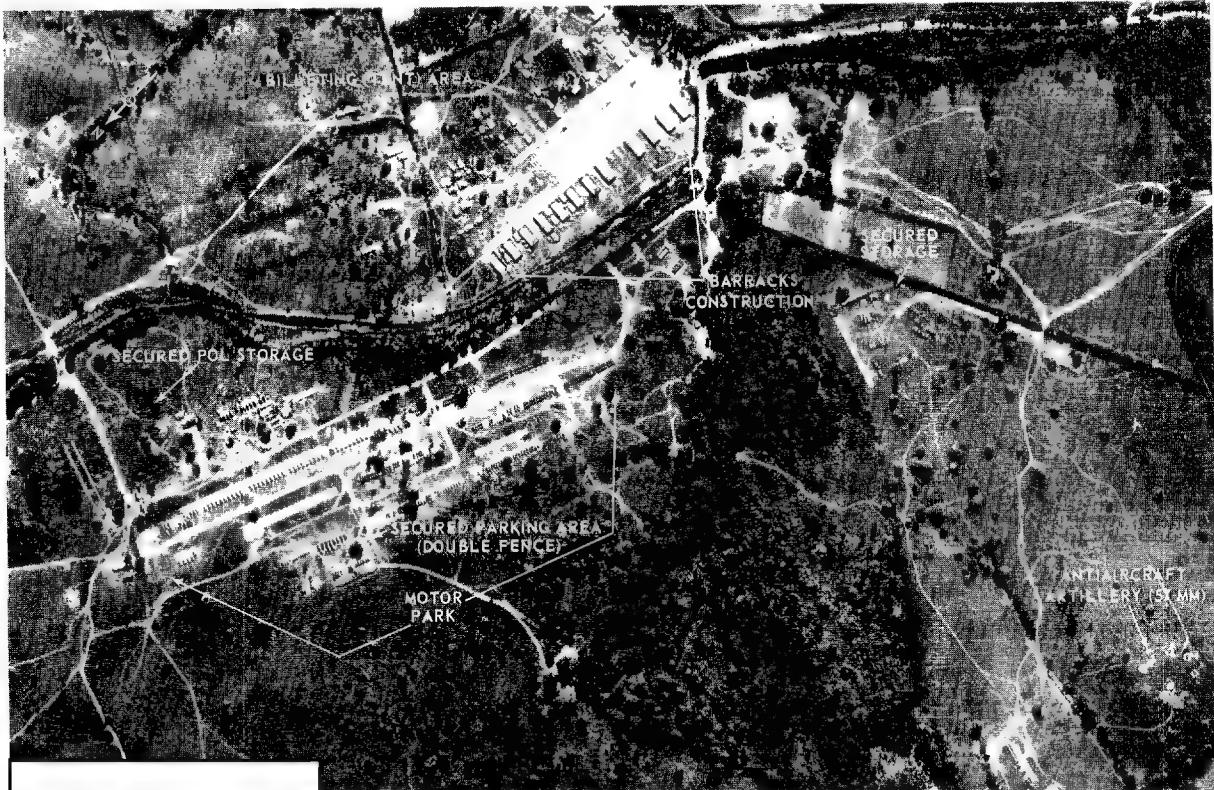


FIGURE 5. REMEDIOS MILITARY CAMP

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SANTIAGO DE LAS VEGAS MILITARY CAMP

Santiago de las Vegas Military Camp is located 2.8 nm east of Santiago de las Vegas at 22-58-00N 82-20-25W (UTM 17QLR626403 on AMS Series E 723, Sheet 3784 IV). The camp, located in a heavily wooded area, consists of a billeting area, a motor park, a 57 mm anti-

aircraft artillery battery, and a 14.5 mm anti-aircraft artillery battery. Infantry, armor, and probable elite badges and other minor insignia were observed at the camp (Figure 6).

The following is a complete list of weapons and equipment identified at the camp:

- 32 T-54 tanks
- 9 SU-100 self-propelled guns
- 3 57mm antitank guns
- 9 ZPU 1 antiaircraft artillery guns
- 6 57mm antiaircraft artillery gun
- 1 FIRE CAN radar
- 1 height rangefinder
- 5 BRDM APCs

- 4 FROG missile transporters
- 8 missile transporters
- 8 AT-3 tracked prime movers
- 13 cargo trucks
- 11 utility trucks
- 34 unidentified wheeled vehicles
- 3 unidentified tracked vehicles
- 4 field kitchens

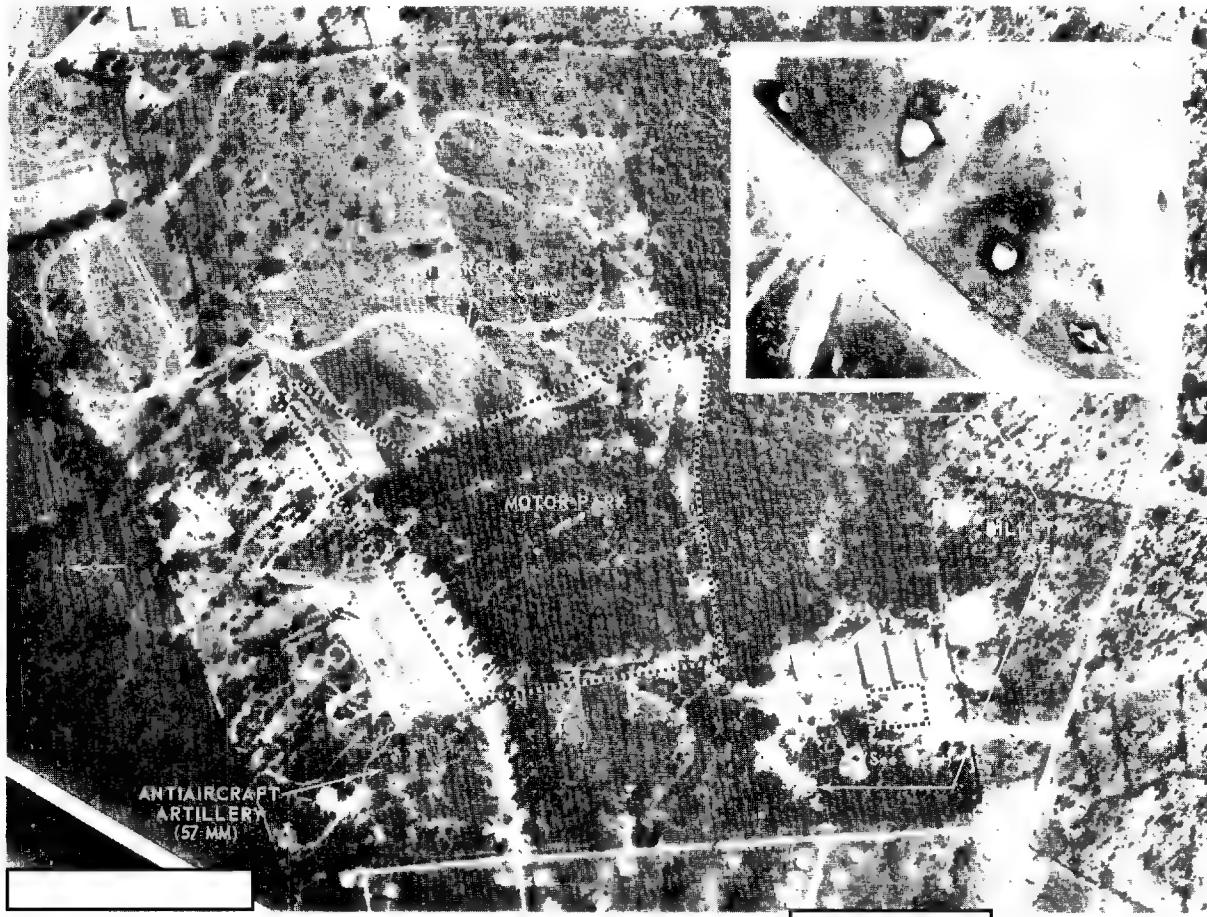


FIGURE 6. SANTIAGO DE LAS VEGAS MILITARY CAMP

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CAMAGUEY MILITARY CAMP

Camaguey Military Camp is located 4 nm southeast of Camaguey at 21-21-11N 77-51-24W (UTM 18Q TU037637 on AMS Series E 723, Sheet 4680 III). The camp consists of a

24 cargo trucks
18 utility trucks
7 POL trucks
32 vans
14 electronics vans
14 unidentified vehicles pieces of equipment

billeting area, a motor park, and electronics areas (Figure 7).

The following is a complete list of weapons and equipment identified at the camp:

2 TOKEN-type radars
1 ROCK CAKE/STONE CAKE radar
1 probable SPOON REST radar
1 probable FLAT FACE radar
1 microwave tower

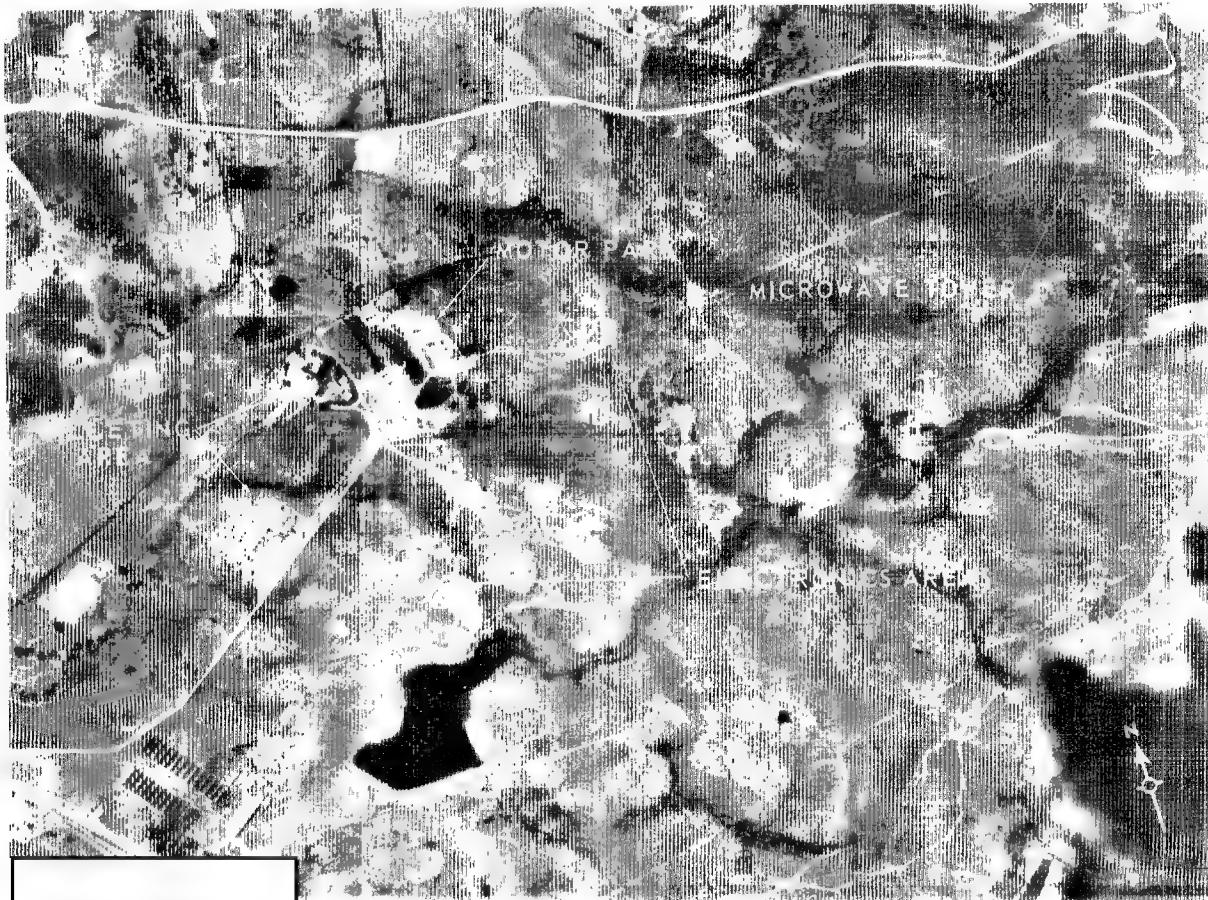


FIGURE 7. CAMAGUEY MILITARY CAMP

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MAYARI ARRIBA MILITARY CAMP

Mayari Arriba Military Camp is located 2.6 nm north-northeast of Mayari Arriba at 20-27-14N 75-31-12W (UTM 18QVT457616 on AMS Series E 723, Sheet 5077 II). The camp consists of a billeting area, a motor park, an

2 37mm antiaircraft artillery guns
54 cargo trucks
3 utility trucks
23 vans
13 unidentified vehicles pieces of equipment
3 missile transporters
1 unidentified transporters
7 MAZ 529 B prime movers
3 S 80-type tractors
2 wireline service trucks

open storage area, and an area containing probable storage revetments (Figure 8).

The following is a complete list of weapons and equipment identified at the camp:

2 wheeled backhoes
1 AT-T with dozer blade
5 truck mounted cranes
3 generators
14 crates (cruise-missile type)
4 POL tanks (horizontal)
10 (approximately) concrete arches
15 (approximately) concrete tabs
10 revetments (probable storage)

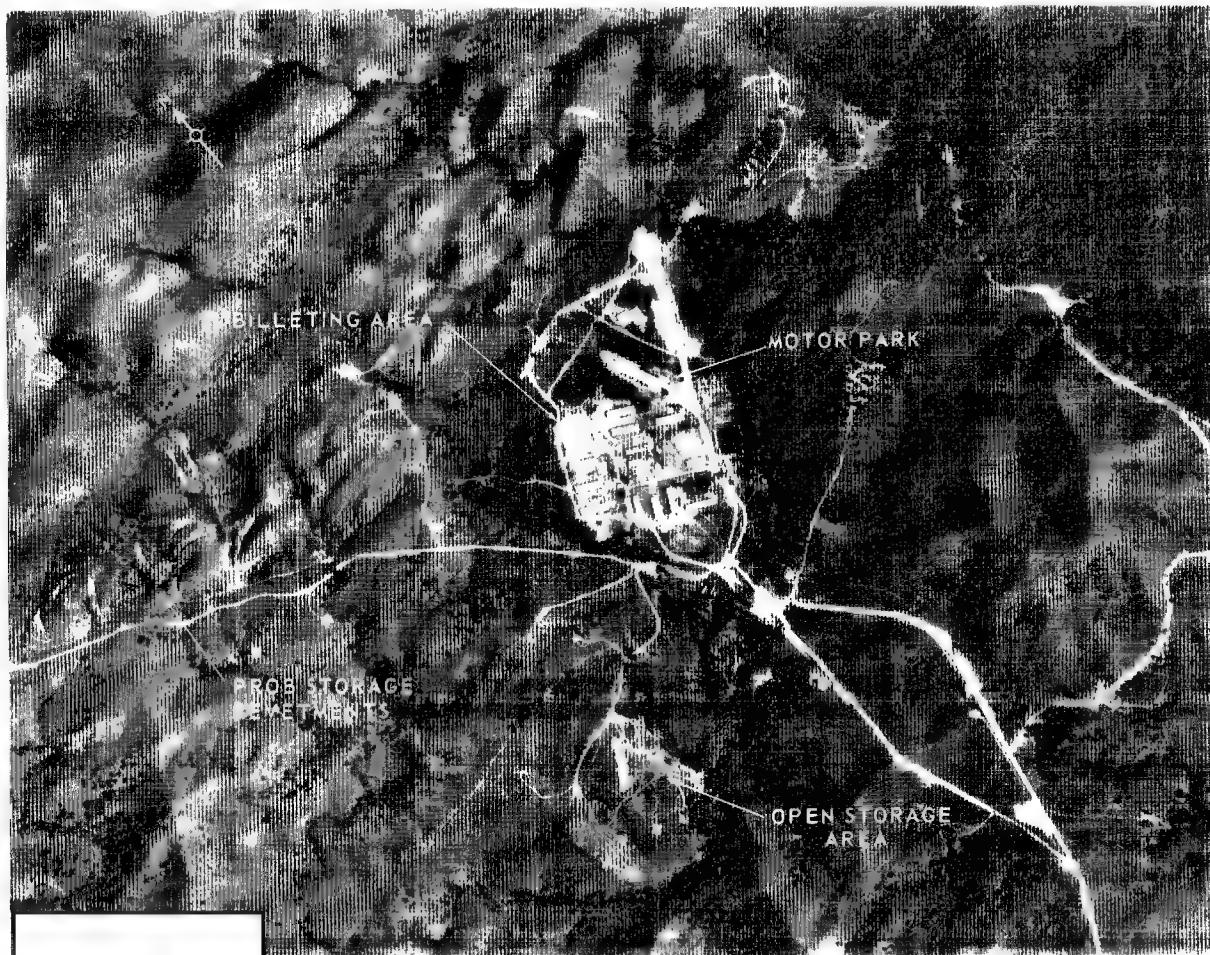


FIGURE 8. MAYARI ARRIBA MILITARY CAMP

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PINAR DEL RIO MILITARY CAMP

Pinar del Rio Military Camp is located 1.5 nm southwest of Pinar del Rio at 22-23-56N 83-42-48W (UTM 17QKQ206794 on AMS Series E 723, Sheet 3483 II). The camp consists of a billeting area located in and around an orchard, and a motor park to the north (Figure 9).

The following is a complete list of weapons and equipment identified at the camp:

34 cargo trucks
5 utility trucks
4 vans
37 unidentified vehicles - pieces of equipment
1 radio tower (R-400)



FIGURE 9. PINAR DEL RIO MILITARY CAMP

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PLAYA BARACOA MILITARY CAMP

Playa Baracoa Military Camp is located 1.4 nm south of Playa Baracoa at 23-01-40N 82-34-31W (UTM 17QLR386474 on AMS Series E 723, Sheet 3685 II). The camp, located at

Playa Baracoa Airfield, is associated with the assembly and maintenance of HOUND (MI-4), and HARE (MI-1) helicopters at the airfield. It consists of a billeting area, an assembly and

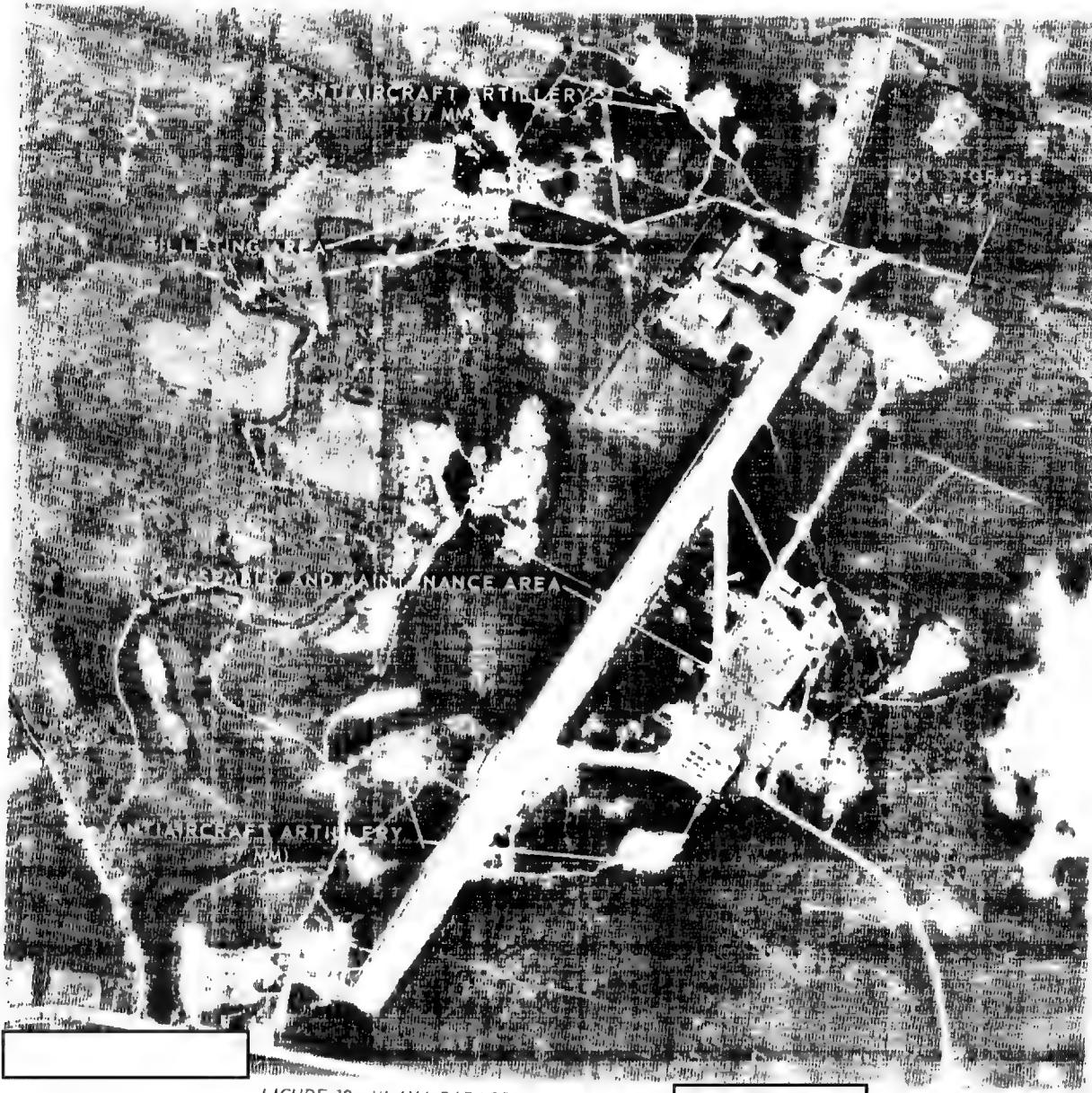


FIGURE 10. PLAYA BARACOA MILITARY CAMP

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maintenance area, a POL storage area, and three 3-gun 37 mm antiaircraft artillery batteries. Seventeen tents differing in size and shape from the typical Soviet tents (Figure 2) are located in the assembly and maintenance

9 37mm antiaircraft artillery guns
16 cargo trucks
3 utility trucks
30 POL trucks
6 electronics vans (net-covered)
47 HOUND (MI-4) helicopters

area and probably billet Cuban personnel being trained at the airfield (Figure 10).

The following is a complete list of weapons and equipment identified at the camp:

9 HARE (MI-1) helicopters
108 helicopter shipping crates
60 unidentified vehicles/pieces of equipment
1 motorized grader
36 POL tanks (horizontal)
numerous POL drums

TORRENS MILITARY CAMP

Torrens Military Camp is located 4.4 nm west-northwest of Santiago de las Vegas at 22-59-36N 82-28-00W (UTM 17QLR496434 on AMS Series E 723, Sheet 3784 IV). The camp consists of four billeting areas -- one of which formerly was a reformatory -- three motor parks, an electronics area, and a 57 mm anti-

6 57mm antiaircraft artillery guns
3 SPONGE CAKE radars
2 height-finding radars
10 generators
4 AT-L tracked prime movers
16 AT-S tracked prime movers
151 cargo trucks
21 utility trucks
10 POL trucks
160 vans

aircraft artillery battery (Figure 11). The majority of the estimated 3,238 personnel billeted at Torrens are believed to be Soviet; however, the percentage of non-Soviet personnel cannot be determined.

The following is a complete list of weapons and equipment identified at the camp:

2 van work-shop trucks
33 cargo trailers (two-axle)
7 van trailers (two-axle)
17 trailers (two-axle)
8 trailers (single-axle)
1 ADA shower
1 motorized grader
17 field kitchens
181 unidentified vehicles/pieces of equipment
numerous reels of wire

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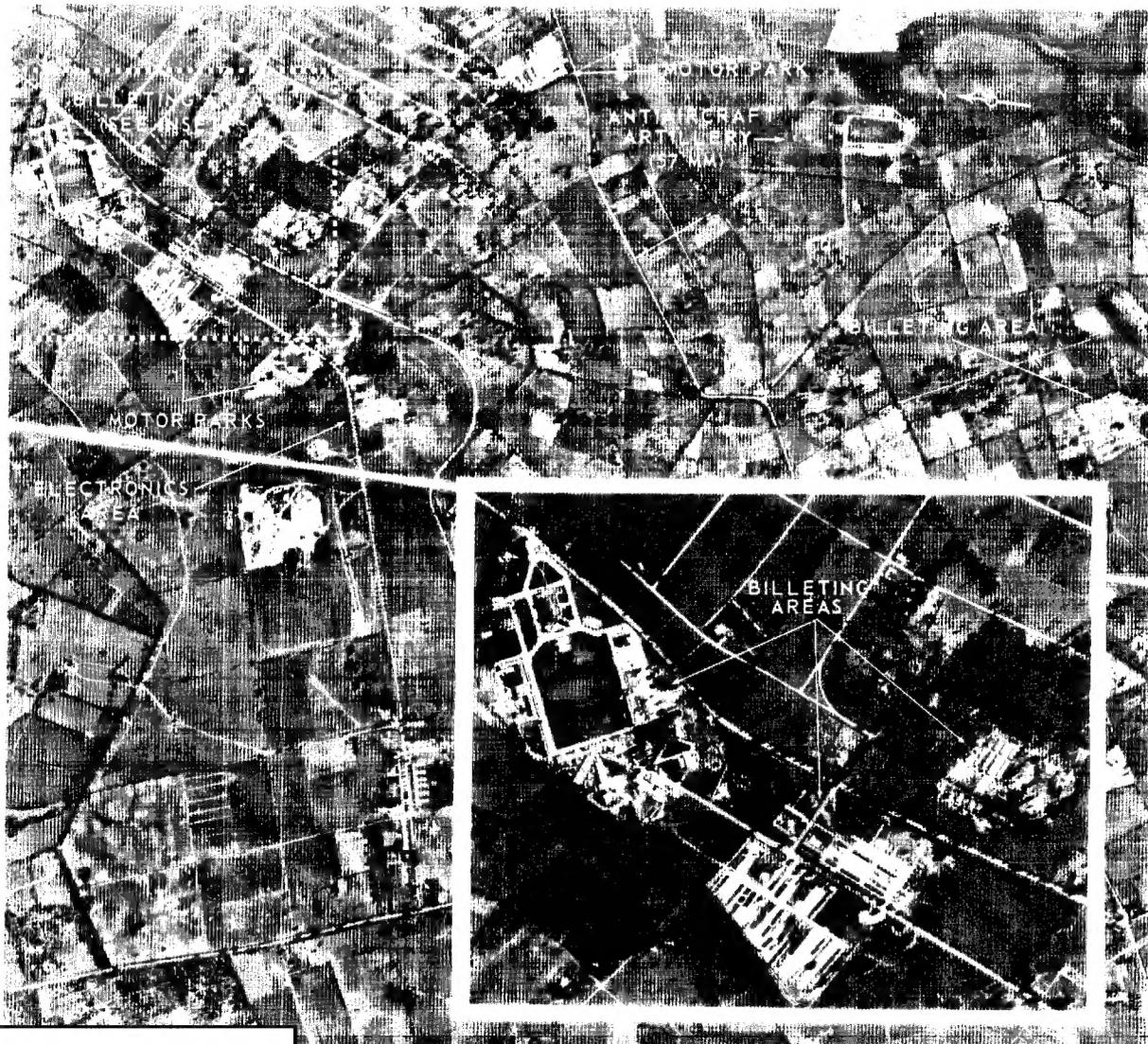


FIGURE 11. TORRENS MILITARY CAMP

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